



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Amendment

LCO No. 3290

Offered by:

REP. BOUGHTON, 138th Dist.

REP. HEAGNEY, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5317

File No. 351

Cal. No. 302

"An Act Concerning Revisions To The Education Statutes."

1 After line 897 insert the following and renumber the remaining
2 sections accordingly:

3 "Sec. 32. (a) There is established the Educational Funding 2000
4 Research Panel. The panel shall consist of one member appointed by
5 the Governor, who shall be a financial analyst and shall be the
6 chairperson of the panel; one member appointed by the speaker of the
7 House of Representatives, who shall be an attorney experienced in
8 constitutional law; one member appointed by the majority leader of
9 the House of Representatives, who shall be a professional educator;
10 one member appointed by the minority leader of the House of
11 Representatives, who shall be a professional educator with experience
12 in education finance; one member appointed by the president pro
13 tempore of the Senate, who shall be an attorney with experience in
14 education law; one member appointed by the majority leader of the
15 Senate, who shall be an economist; and one member appointed by the

16 minority leader of the Senate, who shall be an economist; and all the
17 members of the committee having cognizance of education matters.

18 (b) The panel shall evaluate constitutional requirements with
19 respect to education funding, the component parts of the current
20 education equalization aid grant formula pursuant to section 10-262h
21 of the general statutes, as amended, and programmatic grants to
22 determine if they accurately gage the educational funding needs of
23 students, the distinct educational needs of students and the ability of
24 municipalities to provide for those needs. The panel shall also examine
25 (1) basic student needs and the extent to which such needs are
26 reflected in the foundation level and the minimum expenditure
27 requirement; (2) additional student needs related to poverty, language,
28 learning disability, and achievement; (3) economic disparities between
29 municipalities and indices that accurately reflect such disparities; (4)
30 the availability of collateral funding sources; and (5) any other factors
31 that the task force deems to be appropriate.

32 (c) The panel shall make findings of fact and develop
33 recommendations regarding a formula or formulas for education
34 equalization aid grants that fairly and equitably distribute funding to
35 municipalities. Such report shall identify means and methods of
36 providing a funding level for all students and additional funding
37 based upon student need and municipal wealth. The panel shall also
38 recommend methods and timing of grant distribution that would
39 ensure that all education equalization aid grants are used for the
40 intended educational purposes. In developing such recommendations
41 the panel shall conduct fact-finding, hold public hearings and regional
42 forums, and accept public comments.

43 (d) The panel shall report its findings and recommendations, in
44 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the Governor
45 and the General Assembly by January 1, 2001, with recommendations
46 for full implementation of the formula for the fiscal year ending June
47 30, 2002."

48 In line 901, strike "32" and substitute in lieu thereof "33"